

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

THE WISCONSIN NAPAEZAPUS.

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During the summer of 1917, while conducting field work in Wisconsin for the U. S. Biological Survey, which is cooperating with the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey in a study of the life-zones and terrestrial vertebrates of that State, the writer collected specimens of the genus *Napaeozapus* at three different localities. These were the first members of this genus to be found in Wisconsin. The geographic range of the genus was extended still farther to the southwest last summer (1918), when I trapped one on the west side of the Black River, 2 miles west of Withee, Wisconsin.

A critical examination of these specimens is hardly necessary to show that they represent a clearly defined and unrecognized form. It may be identified by the following description:

Napaeozapus insignis fructectanus,¹ subsp. nov.

Type specimen.—Adult ♂, skin and skull, No. 227,349, U. S. National Museum, Biological Survey Collection; from Crescent Lake, Oneida County, Wisconsin; collected September 6, 1917, by Hartley H. T. Jackson. Original number 896.

Geographic range.—Known only from northern Wisconsin.

General characters.—Smaller than *Napaeozapus insignis abietorum*, with shorter hind foot; about the size of *Napaeozapus insignis insignis*; different from both in color. Compared with either *N. i. insignis* or *N. i. abietorum* the dorsal area (stripe) is more sharply defined (intermixed with more blackish-hairs); color of sides duller and paler, though showing more distinctly the scantily intermixed coarse blackish hairs; border of ears appearing distinctly more whitish, narrowly edged with between pinkish buff and pale pinkish buff (as compared to cinnamon in *insignis* and *abietorum*); nose and face more blackish; white portion of terminus of tail averaging shorter.

¹Latin, an inhabitant of shrubbery or bushy places.

Color.—Broad dorsal stripe extending from snout to base of tail clay color¹ much mixed with blackish, decidedly darker than sides and remainder of upper parts which are clay color scantily mixed with coarse blackish hairs; ventral parts from chin to base of tail creamy white; ears essentially like dorsal stripe, narrowly edged with between pinkish buff and pale pinkish buff; tail distinctly bicolor nearly to tip, between olive-brown and chaetura drab above, whitish below, the terminal twenty millimeters whitish both above and below.

Skull.—About the size and proportions of that of *Napaeozapus insignis abietorum* (as represented by specimens from Quebec); molar row longer and heavier than in *Napaeozapus insignis insignis* and interorbital region much more constricted (as in *abietorum*); postpalatal notch shallower than in either *N. i. insignis* or *N. i. abietorum*, the anterior border about opposite the middle or posterior half of last molar (in both *insignis* and *abietorum* the anterior border of this is about opposite, or anterior to, anterior edge of this tooth); palatal shelf greater in antero-posterior diameter than in either *insignis* or *abietorum*.

Measurements.—Type-specimen (adult male): Total length, 235; tail vertebrae, 145; hind foot, 31. *Skull*: Type-specimen (adult male; teeth slightly worn): Condylbasal length, 21.1; zygomatic breadth, 11.9; mastoid breadth, 10.7; interorbital constriction, 4.5; posterior border of incisors to anterior edge of mesopterygoid space, 9.1; anterior edge of mesopterygoid space to foramen magnum, 7.8; molar tooth row, 3.9.

Remarks.—The Wisconsin representative of *Napaeozapus* is more clearly defined in external characters from true *insignis* than either *N. i. abietorum* or *N. i. roanensis*. Its pale dull colors, more clearly enunciated dorsal stripe, and pale edges of the ears separate it at a glance from all other known subspecies. The specimens were trapped in the same habitat with *Zapus hudsonius hudsonius*, usually grassy brushland or second growth (predominantly alder or paper birch, sometimes mixed timber of arbor vitae, maple, aspen, and birch) along creeks. The type-specimen was trapped in a grassy paper-birch thicket near the bank of Crescent Creek.

Specimens examined.—Seven from the following localities in Wisconsin: Crescent Lake, Oneida County, 1; Kelley Lake, Oconto County, 2; Lake-wood, 3; Withee, 1.

¹Ridgway, R., Color standards and color nomenclature, 1912.